

Endangered Species Program

Vision: A healthy environment supporting healthy communities.

To: Interested Parties

Cc:

From: Joel Rupley, Program Coordinator

Date: 6/21/06

Re: Habitat Conservation Ordinance Amendments

On Tuesday, June 20, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) passed a set of amendments to Chapter 40.440 of the Cark County Code, the Habitat Conservation Ordinance. These amendments do not include regulations of existing agricultural activities to protect habitat areas. The BOCC set a hearing at 10 AM on Tuesday, July 11, 2006 to take public comment and then act on the attached proposed agricultural regulations. The hearing will be in the Commissioners Hearing Room on the 6th floor of the Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver.

Please address any written comments about the proposed agricultural regulations to the Board of County Commissioners, P.O. Box 5000, Vancouver, WA 98666, or e-mail comments to boardcom@clark.wa.gov.

Significant changes to the Habitat Conservation Ordinance that the BOCC adopted on June 20 include:

- * Changes to the stream typing system to conform to the new state stream types;
- * Reduction of riparian areas along streams that don't have fish habitat:
- * Clarification of "reasonable use" rules for property significantly impacted; and
- * Provisions for programmatic permits for utility maintenance.

The BOCC also adopted a map showing priority habitat areas.